
A. For special attention concerning all parquet floors**1. Room climate**

- 1.1 Wood is a natural, living material which possesses the ability to adjust its humidity level to the environment, even after processing it into solid or multi-layer parquet. Depending on whether humidity is assimilated or emitted, the volume of the wood changes. This process is called „swelling“ and „shrinking“.

When the humidity is low („dry“ air) which mainly happens during the heating period in the winter months, wood emits humidity to the air. Therefore, its volume diminish – it “shrinks”. If the humidity is too low, the wood dries out (underdrying) which causes open joints and cracks in the parquet.

When the humidity rises, wood assimilates humidity and its volume increases – it „swells“. In case that the humidity and hence the humidity of the wood is too high, damages due to swelling (deformations) are possible.

Due to the nature of the wood material these reactions cannot be avoided.
However, damages of parquet floors may be prevented by ensuring the appropriate room climate.

Therefore, it is absolutely required to provide a healthy room climate, which contributes significantly to people’s well-being.

- 1.2 A healthy room climate means (Europe)
- Room temperatures from 18 °C to 22 °C
 - Relative humidity from 35 % to 55 %

For Scandinavian countries, e.g. Sweden, a relative humidity from 25% to 45% is required.

- 1.3 Measures to achieve the appropriate room climate
- If humidity is too low, use suitable humidifiers.
 - If humidity is too high, use suitable dehumidifiers.
 - Adjust the radiation/thermostats to the right room temperature
 - To monitor the climate we recommend a permanently installed hygrometer connected to a detection system
 - Plants

2. General information on parquet layers with a lacquered surface

- 2.1 The parquet layers are equipped by the manufacturer with a sealed surface protecting them against humidity and abrasion. This makes them ready for immediate use.

Like any other floor surface, the surface of parquet layers is subject to natural wear. For example, fine debris and sand have a similar effect on lacquered surfaces as abrasive paper. Furthermore, soles containing metal and shoes with slim heels as well as hard wheels of chairs and furniture can cause irreparable impressions in the wood structure.

The durability and resistance of the sealed layers imperatively depend on regular and correct care which extends the life span of the layers enormously.



2.2 The following points are to be considered

- Install dirt catching zones at the entrance areas (doormats, dirt-trapping mats or similar)
- Apply felt gliders under chair and table legs
- Only hard, large double wheels type W (soft) according to DIN 68131 are suitable. Additionally, use appropriate mats (e.g. polycarbonate mats)
- For furniture with moving wheels and for example under car tyres in car showrooms we recommend to place suitable mats (polycarbonate mats)
- Impurities of any kind as well as standing moisture for example caused by beverage bottles or flower water are to be avoided or immediately removed
- Always follow the care and cleaning instructions (see section B)
- Avoid standing moisture; impurities may not be wet wiped; do not use microfibre cloths, steel wool, steam cleaners or similar (see also section B)

2.3 Measures for extraordinary stress

- In case of heavy stress and contamination, protect the surface by covering it with suitable, stable material (e.g. milk carton paper or cardboard)
- Do not move furniture along the floor and be careful when stowing them

Note: Mechanical damages or excessive abrasion may trigger the risk of greying of the parquet due to water penetration. Reprocess and repair the surface immediately (see section B/2 – Refreshing)

B. Care and cleaning of lacquered parquet surfaces

The instructions of the manufacturer regarding the application and safety of the chosen care and cleaning products are to be respected. If necessary, please consult the manufacturer. The usability and compatibility of these products belong to the responsibility of the consumer.

1. Care and cleaning instructions

1.1 In general:

- Damp wipe with a suitable absorber (e.g. cotton wiper)
- In any case do not wet wipe the floor - do not pour the cleaning water directly on the floor
- Microfibre cloths, steel wool, steam cleaners or similar must **not** be used. Furthermore, do not apply strong, scrubbing cleaning agents or agents which are not suitable for lacquered wood floors

Note: Use two buckets, one for the cleaning water including the care / cleaning product and another one with lukewarm, clear water to rinse and wring out the absorber.

1.2 Cleaning in case of light soiling (dry cleaning)

For the daily cleaning of light soiling it is sufficient to vacuum or sweep.

1.3 Regular cleaning in case of normal contamination (damp cleaning)

After dry cleaning damp wipe the floor with an absorber and lukewarm vinegar water. Then let the floor dry.

In case of heavy, persistent contamination – see section B/1.5

1.4 Regular care

Regular care with a care product suitable for lacquered parquet floors creates a protective film which provides long-term protection for the lacquered parquet layers.

Add the care product to the warm cleaning water in the correct mixing ratio according to the manufacturer's instructions. Damp wipe the floor with a suitable, well wrung absorber. Then let the floor dry.

Example:

1. Treatment with Klumpp Hydro Care Concentrate, mixing ratio 1:50 (1 liter of Hydro Care and 50 liters of water)

2. Treatment with Berger Seidle Everclear matt undiluted after basic cleaning. For regular care the mixing ratio is 1:30 (approx. 300ml and 10 litres of water)

1.5 Thorough cleaning in case of heavy contamination (Basic cleaning)

In case of heavy contamination of the parquet layers a thorough cleaning with a suitable intensive cleaner for lacquered parquet floors should be done.

Add the intensive cleaner to the warm cleaning water in the correct mixing ratio according to the manufacturer's instructions. Damp wipe the floor with a suitable, well wrung absorber.

Immediately after the intensive cleaning, wipe the floor with the care product according to section B/1.4 in order to reestablish a protective film.

Example: Cleaning with Klumpp Hydro Cleaner Concentrate, mixing ratio 1:10 (1 liter of intensive cleaner and 10 liters of warm water). Wiping with Klumpp Hydro Care Concentrate, mixing ratio 1:50 (1 liter of Hydro Care and 50 liters of warm water).

1.6 Stain removal

To a certain level, persistent stains/soiling can be treated with a damp cloth and cleaning benzine, spirit, alcohol or nail polish remover (acetone). The treatment should be tested first at a non-visible area. Do not use thinner.

Example: Apply undiluted Klumpp Hydro Cleaner Concentrate (wear safety gloves) and then wipe. Afterwards, treat the affected area with Berger Seidle Everclear matt undiluted.

Note: Natural Oil Care does not provide a permanent protection for lacquered surfaces.

1.7 Care intervals

The care interval greatly depends on the sort of usage of the respective area. The following recommendation represents a guide value and can be adjusted according to the local conditions:

- Moderately used areas (e.g. living area) approx. every 2 to 4 weeks
- Frequently used areas (e.g. business) approx. every 1 to 2 weeks
- Intensively used areas (e.g. restaurants, shops, light industrial use) approx. every 1 to 2 days

2. Refreshing of the lacquered parquet surface

After longer use, when the surface of the parquet layers begins to look mat or greyish, a refreshment is possible by applying a thin layer of the care product.

Deeper damages have to be repaired in advance with a suitable plastic wood/wax or parquet filler.

Similar to the initial care treatment, the floor has to be cleaned in advance and then treated with the care product. The care product is processed according to the manufacturer's instructions. see section B1.4

These recommendations are based on general practical experiences. In particular cases, no responsibility is taken for their completeness, accuracy and practicability.

For the surface treatment of the parquet layers with UV coatings we recommend products of the company Klumpp or Berger Seidle

Should you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.
Telephone +49 (0) 87 23 / 20-36 82, Product Management Flooring Division